



• Where the Nurses Reside.

He Wanted to Give It to
the City, So His Heirs
Followed His Desires

Graded as CLASS 'A' Is Memorial HOSPITAL

HEALTH and knowledge. Given those two things, everything else would follow, in the opinion of Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of this city.

So it was but natural that he wanted to see them made available for all who were to become residents.

On behalf of knowledge, it was his gift of 300 books from his private library in November, 1913, which formed the nucleus of the present splendid library. Three months later, on the formation of a county system, the tiny library was pleased to place itself under that jurisdiction, to enjoy the greater benefits thereby made possible.

But health was a much costlier gift. Yet for many years

Mr. Torrance planned for the day when it would be possible for him to present the infant city with a hospital second to none.

Funds Available

REALIZATION of his plan loomed when, in the autumn of 1920, a business deal placed in his hands the entire stock of the Standard Fireproof Building Company, a Los Angeles corporation operating the Brack Shops. Here was an income of some \$700 per month, destined to run for a period of 91 years.

Immediately Mr. Torrance founded a trust, presenting to it this stock and providing that, after his death, the income should be paid to the Torrance Hospital Association.

This income was to be used solely for meeting expenses and any deficit incurred in operation of the hospital, which was to be non-profit and, by the terms of the trust, to be free to poor people as far as practicable. It was Mr. Torrance's intention to provide, as a gift, the hospital grounds and buildings, but his death occurred before his plan could be completed.

Legal Technicality

AND, BECAUSE he did not live a few days longer, it appeared that the entire project was doomed. For in his will he had provided \$100,000 for this purpose—but that portion of the will had been incorporated within 30 days of his death and, under California laws, any such legacy is not legal and binding.

Here, then, was a most unusual situation. Was the expressed will of the donor to be thwarted by a legal technicality? Was the Angel of Death, by removing so princely a character just a few days too soon, to enroll many others whose lives might be forfeit for the lack of hospital facilities?

It did not take long to provide an answer. And that answer was, "NO!"

Realizing that establishment of a hospital here was Mr. Torrance's greatest ambition, his widow; Lewis C. Torrance, his brother; Mrs. Jennie T. Welch, his sister; Mrs. Katherine Torrance Peachey, Lewis C. Torrance, Jr., Torrance C. Welch and Brian K. Welch, his niece and nephews, took steps to build the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital and to present it to the hospital association the benefactor had founded.

Opened in 1925

IT WAS in 1925 that the hospital was completed. Opened for inspection on May 9 and 10, Torrance citizens were justly pleased with its splendid accommodations. Erected at a cost of \$100,000, and equipped at an additional expense of \$30,000, the hospital was one of which any city could be proud.

Situated on a knoll in one of the finest locations in the city, the two wings of the hospital stretched forth their welcoming arms to all who might need its services. And in the 11 years that have passed since then, many persons have been restored to health because of the farsighted benevolence of the founder and his heirs.

Planned at the time to be as modern as medical and archi-

tectural science could make it, the hospital has lived up to the trust reposed in it. Financial conditions have considerably reduced its endowment, but nothing has been permitted to reduce its efficiency.

And today Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital still stands in the front rank of such institutions, as attested by the Class A rating received by it from the American College of Surgeons of the United States.

Eleven Years at Head

MUCH of the credit for this is due Miss Esther Z. Maxwell, R. N., who has been its superintendent from the start. Miss Maxwell, a graduate of Mercy Hospital, Davenport, Iowa, was night supervisor of the Long Beach Community Hospital, when, February 11, 1925, she was chosen by the board of directors of the Torrance Hospital Association for this position.

Immediately she began to prepare for the new post. Selection of much of the equipment was her first task, followed by organization of a staff of nurses. It is worthy of note that of the 12 nurses now at the hospital, Miss Mary Nichols, R. N., has been surgical nurse ever since the opening day. Miss Nichols is a graduate of Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago.

Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital is not a training school for nurses. Every member of its staff must have completed her course and must be a registered nurse. It has no resident physician or interne, but it has a regular staff of 16 physicians, with an additional 14 associates.

Anyone May Belong

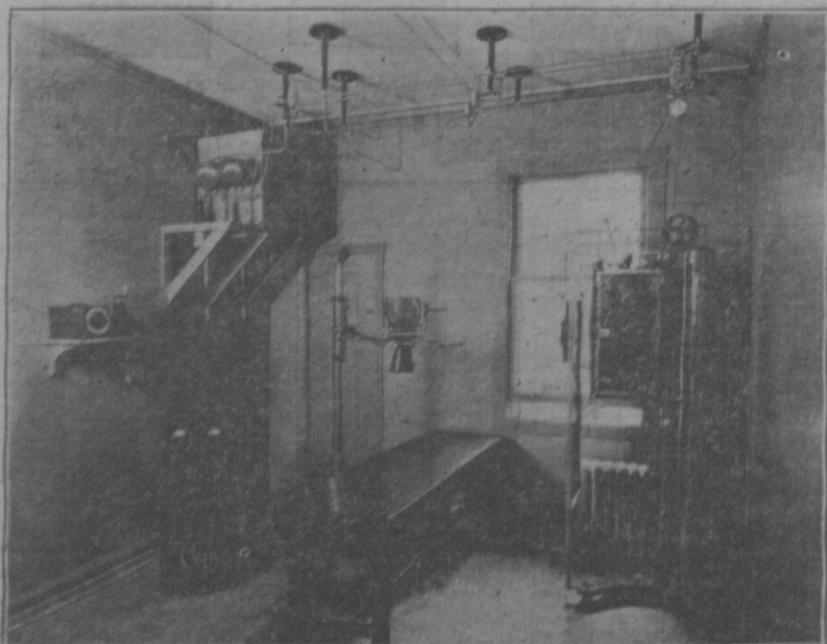
IT IS owned by the non-profit Torrance Hospital Association, to which anyone may belong, and whose board of directors consists, under the terms of the trust, of two registered physicians, three non-medical women and four non-medical men. Membership in the association costs \$5 per year or \$100 for life.

The present board of directors includes Mrs. Jared S. Torrance as president; Dr. J. S. Lancaster, vice president; Donald Findley, secretary, and Mrs. Isabel Henderson, Mrs. Willis M. Brooks, Dr. A. P. Stevenson, E. M. Barber, R. R. Smith, and Grover C. Whyte. Miss Maxwell is assistant secretary, with Charles A. Curtiss, auditor.

Fifty beds constitute the capacity of the hospital, which serves a territory far greater



• Reception Room of Hospital.



• The Modern X-Ray Room.